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Key Points:

- Direct measurement of P and S wave velocities of stishovite at mantle pressures and temperatures
- In the eclogite, coesite-stishovite transition can result in seismically detectable first order increase in P and S velocities
- An eclogite‐rich layer model can interpret the seismic X‐discontinuity in Hawaii area

Supporting Information:

Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article.

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Sound Velocities of Stishovite at Simultaneous High Pressure and High Temperature Suggest an Eclogite‐Rich Layer Beneath the Hawaii Hotspot

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Abstract Compressional and shear wave velocities of polycrystalline stishovite $(SiO₂)$ have been measured at simultaneous high pressures and temperatures up to 14.5 GPa and 800°C. By fitting velocities to the finite strain equations, the elastic moduli and density were determined to be $K_{\text{SO}} = 306.6(46)$ GPa, *K*_S[′] = 4.92(10), $\partial K_S/\partial T$ = −0.024(1) GPa/*K*, *G*₀ = 229.0(34) GPa, *G*′ = 1.07(10), $\partial G/\partial T$ = −0.017(1) GPa/ *K*, $\rho_0 = 4.287(2)$ g/cm³. Our modeling suggested that, in the eclogite, coesite-stishovite transition can increase P and S wave velocities by 2.4% and 3.5%, respectively. A comparison between geophysical observations and our model shows that the coesite‐stishovite phase transition in the eclogite can potentially be responsible for the occurrence of the X discontinuity beneath Hawaii. In addition, our current results suggest an eclogite-rich layer between 340 and 450 km depth beneath Hawaii. The eclogite concentration at the top and bottom of the layer is $41-55$ vol% and >77 vol%, respectively.

Plain Language Summary In this study, we investigated the elastic behavior of stishovite, a high‐ pressure mineral found in subducted oceanic crust, under simultaneous high pressure and high temperature. By measuring compressional and shear wave velocities of polycrystalline stishovite at pressures up to 14.5 GPa and temperatures up to 800°C, we determined elastic modulus for stishovite. Using current data, we developed a model to predict seismic wave velocities changes in the subducted oceanic crust known as eclogite. According to our model, the coesite-stishovite phase transition can lead to a 2.4% and 3.5% increase in P and S wave velocities of eclogite, respectively. In addition, we compared it with geophysical observations, particularly focusing on the X discontinuity beneath Hawaii. Our result indicates the presence of an eclogite‐rich layer beneath Hawaii, extending from 340 to 450 km in depth. The concentration of eclogite at the top and bottom of this layer varies, with values ranging from 41% to 55% at approximately 336 km and exceeding 77% at around 448 km depth.

1. Introduction

Stishovite is a high-pressure polymorph of silica (SiO₂) and is stable above 9 GPa at 1,000 $^{\circ}$ C, with a tetragonal structure (space group P4₂/mnm). In silica-rich mineral assemblies, such as oceanic crust, stishovite is one of the major components at depth greater than ∼300 km (Aoki & Takahashi, [2004;](#page-6-0) Ono, [1998](#page-7-0)). Previous experiment suggested that the velocity contrast between stishovite and coesite can be as high as ∼45%, which might be responsible for the seismic X‐discontinuities in the Earth's upper mantle (T. Chen et al., [2015,](#page-6-0) [2017\)](#page-6-0).

The X-discontinuity at depths between 250 and 350 km has been observed by seismic studies in various geological settings such as subduction zones, stable continents, and hot-spots (Kemp et al., [2019](#page-7-0); Pugh et al., [2021](#page-7-0); Schmerr et al., [2013](#page-7-0); Srinu et al., [2021](#page-8-0); Wölbern & Rümpker, [2018\)](#page-8-0). Using receiver functions analysis, Kemp et al. [\(2019](#page-7-0)) reported an X-discontinuity beneath the Hawaii hot-spot and interpreted this Xdiscontinuity as the coesite‐stishovite phase transition.

Previous studies have reported the elastic properties of stishovite at room temperature and high pressure (Jiang et al., [2009](#page-7-0); B. Li et al., [1996;](#page-7-0) Zhang et al., [2021](#page-8-0)). In Addition, using first-principles simulation with local density approximation, Yang and Wu ([2014\)](#page-8-0) calculated elastic constant tensor of stishovite at mantle pressure and temperature. However, elastic properties, especially the shear properties, of stishovite at simultaneous high pressure and temperature have not been directly constrained by experimental studies. In this study, we measured

the compressional and shear wave velocities of poly-crystalline stishovite at simultaneous high pressure and high temperature. Based on our data, we calculated the velocity profile of eclogite and discussed its possible role in interpreting the X‐discontinuity in the Hawaii hot spot.

2. Experimental Methods

The polycrystal stishovite was synthesized from fused $SiO₂$ cylinder (3 mm in both diameter and thickness) from Goodfellow Corporation (purity >99.9%). The fused $SiO₂$ cylinder was enclosed in a gold capsule and hotpressed at ∼14 GPa and 1,200°C for 2 hr in the USCA‐2000 multi‐anvil apparatus installed at Stony Brook University. The recovered sample was characterized by scanning electron microscopy (Figure S1 in Supporting Information S1) and X-ray diffraction, which suggest that the grain size is less than 1μ m and the sample is a single phase of stishovite with no impurity phases present. By using the Archimedes' immersion method, the bulk density of the recovered stishovite sample was determined to be $4.269(10)$ g/cm³, which is 99.6% of the density [4.287(2) g/cm³)] determined by the energy-dispersive X-ray diffraction (Figure S2 in Supporting Information S1).

Simultaneous high pressure and high temperature ultrasonic experiments were conducted in the 1,000‐ton Kawaii type (T‐25) multi‐anvil apparatus up to 14 GPa and 800°C in conjunction with synchrotron X‐ray diffraction and imaging at GSECARS beamline 13-ID-D, Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory. Figure S3 in Supporting Information S1 illustrates the cross section of the ultrasonic cell assembly. The apparatus compresses eight WC cubes, each with a corner truncated to the edge length of 8 mm, forming an octahedral cavity, within which a 14 mm MgO-MgAl₂O₄ octahedral pressure transmitting medium was compressed. The high temperature was generated by a graphite heater and measured by a pair of W95Re5-W74Re26 thermocouple. A polycrystalline Si_3N_4 cylinder (S. Wang et al., [2024\)](#page-8-0) and a NaCl + BN (9: 1 by weight) disk were in contact with the front and rear surfaces of the sample to serve as the acoustic buffer rod and backing material marker, respectively. Two pieces of gold foils (2‐μm thickness) were placed at the bottom and top of the sample, which served as X‐ray image markers for the boundary of the sample and mechanical coupling material between the buffer rod and sample. The surfaces of the truncated corners of the WC cube, $Si₃N₄$ buffer rod, and sample were all polished to 1 μm finish with diamond paste. Before the ultrasonic experiment, the length of the stishovite sample was measured with a micrometer, yielding a value of 1.536(1) mm.

By employing a dual mode $LiNbO₃$ transducer, P (50 MHz) and S (35 MHz) wave travel times were obtained simultaneously using a transfer function method (Li et al., [2005](#page-7-0)). Details of data acquisition and analysis can be found in B. Li and Liebermann [\(2014\)](#page-7-0). Figure S4 in Supporting Information S1 shows the representative P and S wave signals at 12.1 GPa and 27°C, and the high signal-to-noise ratio echoes marked as "Anvil," Buffer Rod" and "Sample" are reflections from the back surfaces of the WC cube, buffer rod and sample, respectively. During the ultrasonic experiment, the pressure was calculated directly using the experimental data of the sample (i.e., absolute pressure scale) (B. Li et al., [2005\)](#page-7-0). At high pressure and temperature, the sample density and length were determined by X‐ray diffraction and X‐ray radiographic imaging technique, respectively (B. Li et al., [2004\)](#page-7-0). Energy dispersive X‐ray diffraction of the stishovite sample was collected at 2θ of 6.09°. The data was collected along cooling path in each heating‐cooling cycle. The X‐ray diffraction pattern was refined by the Le Bail method (e.g., Figure S5 in Supporting Information S1) in GSAS/EXPGUI (Larson & Von Dreele, [2000](#page-7-0); Toby, [2001](#page-8-0)) to obtain the cell parameter and hence density. Figure S6 in Supporting Information S1 illustrates a representative X‐ radiographic image. The sample length was determined by measuring the pixel numbers between the two gold foils at the top and the bottom of the sample. Details of X-ray radiographic imaging technique can be found in B. Li et al. [\(2004](#page-7-0)). Using the two-layer bond correction model (Noda et al., [2022\)](#page-7-0), the P and S wave travel time were corrected by 3.46 and 4.03 ns, respectively.

3. Results and Discussion

After the high pressure ultrasonic experiment, the length of the recovered sample measured by micrometer yield 1.536(1) mm, which is identical to its original length before the experiment. This indicates that the sample was under near-hydrostatic pressure conditions, and no plastic deformation had occurred within the sample.

P and S wave velocities of poly‐crystalline stishovite versus pressure were plotted and listed in Figure [1](#page-2-0) and Table S1 in Supporting Information S1, respectively. Within the current experimental P-T range, the P and S wave velocities monotonically increased with pressure and decreased with temperature. At room temperature (27°C),

126

 12.5 12.4 12.3 12.2

 $\frac{60}{2}$ 12.1
 $\frac{12.0}{2}$ 11.9

 118

 11.7 116 11.5 11.4

 7.4

 7.3

 7.1

 7.0

 Ω

 V_s (km/s)

Figure 1. (a) Compressional and (b) shear wave velocities of stishovite. Color squares: ultrasonic data in this study; color lines: finite strain equations fitting; empty circles: previous ultrasonic data (B. Li et al., [1996](#page-7-0)); empty triangles,diamond, star and hexagon: VRH average of previous Brillouin scattering data (Brazhkin et al., [2005;](#page-6-0) Jiang et al., [2009](#page-7-0); Weidner et al., [1982](#page-8-0); Zhang et al., [2021\)](#page-8-0); Color dash lines: DFT simulation data (Yang & Wu, [2014](#page-8-0)).

 $P(GPa)$

both P and S wave velocities agree with previous single-crystal Voigt-Reuss-Hill (VRH) average values within ∼1% of Jiang et al. ([2009\)](#page-7-0) and Zhang et al. ([2021\)](#page-8-0) and up to 2.1% higher than those from Weidner et al. [\(1982](#page-8-0)) and Brazhkin et al. [\(2005](#page-6-0)). In addition, the V_P and V_S obtained in this study are ~1.5–2.7% higher than previous ultrasonic measurements (B. Li et al., [1996\)](#page-7-0), which may be due to the presence of pores and/or impurity phase in the previous study.

Combining the sound velocities with the density determined by X‐ray diffraction, the bulk and shear moduli were derived using $K_S = \rho V_P^2 - 4 \rho V_S^2/3$ and $G = \rho V_S^2$, respectively. Figure S7 in Supporting Information S1 illustrated the elastic moduli versus pressure. Within the 14.5 GPa pressure range, the adiabatic bulk and shear

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Table 1

Comparison of Elastic Moduli of Stishovite With Previous Experimental and Calculation Results (Andrault et al., [2003;](#page-6-0) Brazhkin et al., [2005](#page-6-0); Jiang et al., [2009](#page-7-0); Karki et al., [1997](#page-7-0); B. Li et al., [1996](#page-7-0); J. Liu et al., [1999](#page-7-0); Luo et al., [2002](#page-8-0); Nishihara et al., [2005](#page-7-0); F. Wang et al., [2012](#page-8-0); Weidner et al., [1982](#page-8-0); Yamanaka et al., 2002; Yang & *Wu, [2014](#page-8-0); Zhang et al., [2021](#page-8-0))*

Method	K_{SO} (GPa)	K_{S}	$\partial K_S/\partial T$	GPa/K) K_{T0} (GPa)	K_T'	$\partial K_T/\partial T$ (GPa/K)	G_{α} (GPa)	G'	$\partial G/\partial T$ (GPa/K)	P_{max} (GPa)	T_{max} (°C)	Reference
Ultrasound	306.6 (46)	4.92 (10)	-0.024 (1)	$308.2(46)^a$ 4.90(10) ^b		-0.031 ^c	229.0 (34)	1.07 (10)	-0.017 (1)	14.5	800	This study
	305(5)	5.3(1)					217(4)	1.8(1)		3	Ambient	Li et al. (1996)
Brillouin scattering	308(1)	4(1)					228(1)	1.1(1)		12	Ambient	Jiang et al. (2009)
	307.5	$\overline{4}$					229.4	1		Re-fit to 14.6	Ambient	Zhang et al. (2021)
	316(4)						220(3)			Ambient	Ambient	Weidner et al. (1982)
	316(4)						222(5)			Ambient	Ambient	Brazhkin et al. (2005)
Theoretical calculation	290.1	5.02	-0.027				213.1	1.71	-0.018	Re-fit to 15.0	Re-fit to 727	Yang and Wu (2014)
	312						226			Ambient	-273	Karki et al. (1997)
Shock wave				306(5)	5.0(2)					250	corrected to ambient	Luo et al. (2002)
XRD				297(5)	4.3(4)	-0.046 (5)				22	800	Nishihara et al. (2005)
	296(2)			294(2)	4.85(12)					54	1,427	Wang et al. (2012)
				294(2)	5.3 (fixed)	-0.041 (11)				10	1,000	Liu et al. (1999)
				309.9(11)	4.59(23)					53	Ambient	Andrault et al. (2003)
				292(13)	6 (fixed)					29.1	Ambient	Yamanaka et al. (2002)

Note. Where α is thermal expansion coefficient, γ is Grüneisen parameter. ${}^{\alpha}K_{T0} = K_S/(1 + \alpha \gamma T)$. ${}^{\beta}K_T' = [K_S' - \gamma T/K_T(\partial K_T/\partial T)]/(1 + \alpha \gamma T)$. ${}^{\beta}K_T/\partial T = (\partial K S)^T$ /∂*T*)/(1 + *αγT*) − *KS*/(1 + *αγT*) ² [*αγ* + (∂*α*/∂*T*)*γT*].

> moduli increase with increasing pressure. Together with thermal expansion coefficient $\alpha_a = 1.26 \, 10^{-5} \text{K}^{-1}$, $\alpha_b = 1.29 \, 10^{-8} \text{K}^{-2}$ (Nishihara et al., [2005](#page-7-0)) and Grüneisen parameter $\gamma = 1.34$ (Stixrude & Lithgow-Bertel-loni, [2005](#page-8-0)), the current data was fitted to the third-order Eulerian finite strain equations (Davies & Dziewonski, [1975](#page-6-0); B. Li and Zhang, [2005](#page-7-0); S. Wang et al., [2021\)](#page-8-0), the elastic bulk and shear moduli and their pressure and temperature derivatives were calculated, yielding $K_{\text{SO}} = 306.6(46)$ GPa, $K_{\text{S}}' = 4.92(10), \partial K_{\text{S}}/\partial T = -0.024(1)$ GPa/*K*, $G_0 = 229.0(34)$ GPa, $G' = 1.07(10)$, and $\partial G/\partial T = -0.017(1)$ GPa/*K*.

> Table 1 compared the current result with previous sound velocity and equation of state studies. Using Brillouin scattering, Weidner et al. [\(1982](#page-8-0)) reported the K_{S0} and G_0 of 316 and 220 GPa, respectively. Brazhkin et al. ([2005\)](#page-6-0) confirmed this observation with the $K_{\rm SO}$ and G_0 of 316 and 222 GPa, respectively. Jiang et al. [\(2009](#page-7-0)) measured the elasticity of single crystal stishovite up to 12 GPa at ambient temperature, the *K_{S0}* and *G₀* of poly-crystal stishovite were derived as 308 and 228 GPa, respectively. A later study (Zhang et al., [2021](#page-8-0)) measured the elastic moduli of single crystal stishovite/post‐stishovite at 0− 70 GPa using Brillouin scattering and impulsive stimulated light scattering. By re-fitting the data (up to 14.6 GPa) to the finite strain equations, the K_0 and G_0 of poly-crystal stishovite yield 307.5 and 229.4 GPa. The current bulk moduli (306.6 GPa) and shear moduli (229.0 GPa) are in good agreement with the previous high pressure Brillouin studies. Using density functional theory (DFT) simulation, Yang and Wu ([2014\)](#page-8-0) calculated the elastic moduli of stishovite up to 65 GPa and 2.727° C. By re-fitting the data up to 15 GPa and 727° C, the temperature derivatives of the bulk and shear moduli are -0.027 and -0.018 GPa/K, respectively, which agree well with our current study. The V_P and V_S at ambient conditions, calculated from K_{S0} and G_0 in this study, are 11.948(60) and 7.309(37) km/s, respectively. Those values are consistent with those reported by Brillouin scattering studies within 0.5%.

Figure 2. (a) Compressional (P), and (b) shear (S) velocities of eclogite along adiabatic temperature + 170°C.

To compare with previous equation of state studies, we converted the adiabatic bulk moduli and its pressure and temperature derivatives to isothermal values using equations in Speziale and Duffy (2002) (2002) . The calculated K_{T0} (308.2 GPa) and K_T' (4.90) are within the range (K_{T0} : 292–309.9 GPa, K_{T0}' : 4.3− 6) reported in previous studies (Andrault et al., [2003](#page-6-0); J. Liu et al., [1999](#page-7-0); Luo et al., [2002;](#page-7-0) Nishihara et al., [2005](#page-7-0); F. Wang et al., [2012](#page-8-0); Yamanaka et al., [2002](#page-8-0)). The $\partial K_T/\partial T$ (−0.031 GPa/K) calculated from $\partial K_S/\partial T$ is ∼0.01 GPa/K higher than that determined by X‐ray diffraction studies (J Liu et al., [1999](#page-7-0); Nishihara et al., [2005](#page-7-0)), which could be in part caused by the tradeoff between the bulk modulus and its pressure and/or temperature derivative during equation of state data analyses in different studies.

4. Implication for Detecting Eclogite in the Hawaii Hotspot

Kemp et al. ([2019\)](#page-7-0) identified an X-discontinuity beneath the Hawaii hot-spot through receiver function analysis. Their findings indicate that to the east of the Big Island, the X‐discontinuity is located at a depth of approximately 336 km, displaying a strong receiver function amplitude. In contrast, the "410" discontinuity was observed at a depth of 446 km, exhibiting an extremely weak amplitude. Previous studies used the formation of phase A (L.-G. Liu, [1987;](#page-7-0) Revenaugh & Jordan, [1991\)](#page-7-0) [forsterite + H₂O \rightarrow enstatite $+$ phase A] to explain the X-discontinuity in the upper mantle. However, this reaction requires low temperature (up to $1,000^{\circ}$ C at 300 km) and high water concentration in the mantle (Komabayashi et al., [2005\)](#page-7-0). Such conditions cannot be met in the hot environment in the Hawaii area. A later study, which conducted experiments up to 1,600°C and suggested that formation of anhydrous phase B (forsterite + periclase \rightarrow anhydrous phase B) can potentially contribute to the X-discontinuity (Ganguly & Frost, [2006\)](#page-7-0). However, this reaction require free ferropericlase to occur in subduction zones (Ganguly & Frost, [2006](#page-7-0)). Another proposed mechanism is the orthopyroxene‐high pressure clinopyroxene phase transition (Angel et al., [1992](#page-6-0); Woodland, [1998](#page-8-0)). However, more recent studies suggest that this phase transition can only produce weak impedance contrast in mantle peridotite (T. Chen et al., [2015](#page-6-0); Schmerr, [2015;](#page-7-0) Xu et al., [2008\)](#page-8-0), especially at higher temperature, hence may not be seismically detectable. Another possible candidate for the X‐discontinuity is coesite‐stishovite phase transition (T. Chen et al., [2015](#page-6-0), [2017;](#page-6-0) Schmerr, [2015;](#page-7-0) Williams & Revenaugh, [2005\)](#page-8-0). Using dynamic simulation, Ballmer et al. ([2013\)](#page-6-0) explored a eclogite‐rich plume. Their results suggested that a silica‐bearing eclogite‐rich layer can be formed at depth around 300 − 410 km. Kemp et al. ([2019\)](#page-7-0)

indicated the coesite-stishovite transition in an eclogite $+$ harzburgite layer can potentially explain the X– discontinuity in Hawaii area. To explore this hypothesis further, we calculated velocity profiles beneath the Hawaii hotspot.

The preliminary reference Earth model (Dziewonski & Anderson, [1981](#page-6-0)) suggested, at depth of 336 km, the pressure is about 11.1 GPa corresponding to a temperature of 1,637°C according to the coesite‐stishovite phase boundary (Akaogi et al., [2011](#page-6-0)). Notably, this temperature is 170°C higher than the temperature along a recently proposed 1,373°C (1646 K) adiabatic geotherm (Katsura, [2022](#page-7-0)) at depth of 336 km. By analyzing olivine‐liquid equilibria and olivine phenocrysts, Putirka [\(2005](#page-7-0)) suggested that the mean temperature in Hawaii is $1,620(55)°$ C and the derived potential temperature is 213–235°C higher than that of ambient middle ocean ridges. In addition, a seismic study indicated that temperature of the mantle beneath Hawaii is 87–129°C higher than ambient mantle conditions (Courtier et al., [2007](#page-6-0)). A more recent seismic study (Bao et al., [2022](#page-6-0)) confirmed this observation with an even higher excess temperature range (121–206°C). The estimated temperature (1,637°C) is in general agreement with the temperature range given above. Therefore, we calculated the P and S wave velocities of coesite (T. Chen et al., [2015,](#page-6-0) [2017\)](#page-6-0) and stishovite along the adiabatic temperature profile

Figure 3. (a) Compressional and (b) shear wave velocities of eclogite + harzburgite, assuming minerals are mechanically mixed.

(Katsura, 2022) +170°C. The result is shown in Figure S8 in Supporting Information S1. At 336 km depth, the V_P and V_S contrast (defined as $\frac{V_{\text{sv}}-V_{\text{ceo}}}{0.5(V_{\text{sv}}+V_{\text{ceo}})}$) between the coesite and stishovite is 39% and 56%, respectively. Following the same P‐T profile, together with the elastic data of garnet and clinopyroxene (Gwanmesia et al., [2014](#page-7-0); Hao et al., [2019](#page-7-0), [2021](#page-7-0)), we further calculated the one‐dimensional velocity‐depth profiles of eclogite by using Voigt‐Reuss‐Hill averages (S. Chen et al., [2022;](#page-6-0) Hill, [1963](#page-7-0)). The mineral proportion was referred to Aoki and Takahashi [\(2004\)](#page-6-0) (Figure S9a in Supporting Information S1). The results (Figure [2\)](#page-4-0) suggest that at 336 km, even with 5.6 vol% free silica (Aoki & Takahashi, [2004](#page-6-0)), the coesitestishovite phase transition can produce V_p and V_s contrast by 2.4% and 3.5%, respectively. A broadband array observations suggested the V_S contrast of X‐discontinuity at Hawaii is 1.5%–2% (Schmerr et al., [2013\)](#page-7-0). Based on previous elastic data (Gwanmesia et al., [2006;](#page-7-0) Kung et al., [2005](#page-7-0); W. Liu et al., [2005](#page-7-0), [2009\)](#page-7-0) and mineralogical model of harzburgite (Figure S9b in Supporting Information S1) (Irifune & Ringwood, [1987](#page-7-0)), we calculated the velocities for an aggregate with eclogite $+$ harzburgite composition assuming that they are mechanically mixed. The result was plotted in Figure 3. The calculated profile suggests that an aggregate with 41%–55 vol% eclogite can produce 1.5% –2% V_s contrast at depth of 336 km. This result is in good agreement with that estimated using synthetic receiver function amplitude (e.g., 40%–50% eclogite + 50%–60% harzburgite) (Kemp et al., [2019](#page-7-0)). With depth increased to 448 km, due to the olivine-wadsleyite phase transition in the harzburgite, the V_S further increases and the contrast is 4.3%–5.7%, which is up to ∼4 times higher than that of the X-discontinuity at 336 km. This high V_S contrast results in the higher amplitude of the "410" discontinuity. However, the seismic observations suggested that, in the Hawaii area, the amplitude of the X‐ discontinuity is stronger than that of the "410" discontinuity (Kemp et al., [2019\)](#page-7-0). This discrepancy could be indicative of a higher eclogite content (e.g., >77 vol%) at depth of 448 km.

Our calculation result tends to support the eclogite‐rich layer model in the Hawaii area (Figure [4](#page-6-0)). At the top of the layer the eclogite concentration is 41%–55%, while the value increased to >77% at the bottom. However, the remaining question is where eclogite comes from. Previous dynamic simulations suggest that the recycled oceanic crust can be entrained by the mantle plume and brought back to the upper mantle (M. Li, [2021\)](#page-7-0). Ballmer et al. [\(2013](#page-6-0)) performed a regional modeling at Hawaii, and their result showed that the thermochemical plumes containing an eclogite component

tended to form a layer at ∼300–410 km depth. Dannberg and Sobolev [\(2015](#page-6-0)) also showed that under certain temperature and plume size, the thermochemical plumes can entrain recycled oceanic crust. In addition to that, previous seismic study reported a mid‐mantle discontinuity at ∼1,050 km depth beneath Hawaii (Shen et al., [2003](#page-8-0)), which can possibly be interpreted by the stishovite− post-stishovite phase transition (Yang & Wu, [2014](#page-8-0); Zhang et al., [2021](#page-8-0), [2022](#page-8-0)). This further supports the existence of recycled crust in the lower mantle, if assuming the free silica was from the recycled crust. Hence, the eclogite can be possibly transported by the mantle plume from lower mantle to the upper mantle. Once the plume rises through the olivine-wadsleyite phase transition, it becomes less buoyant and begins to accumulate and spread out, ultimately forming a eclogite‐rich layer (Ballmer et al., [2013\)](#page-6-0). At the top of the layer (∼336 km) the eclogite concentration is 41%– 55 vol%. Due to the coesite-stishovite phase transition, the S-wave velocity of the bulk assembly increased by 1.5–%2% and was detected as the X‐discontinuity. At the bottom of the layer (∼448 km), the eclogite concentration increased to >77 vol%, consequently diminishing the amplitude of the "410" discontinuity.

Figure 4. Schematic illustration of the deep eclogite‐rich layer in the Hawaii area (modified from Kemp et al., [2019](#page-7-0)).

5. Conclusions

We investigated the compressional and shear velocities of polycrystalline stishovite up to 14.5 GPa and 800°C using ultrasonic interferometry with in situ synchrotron X‐rays. Within the P‐T range, the P and S velocities, as well as the adiabatic bulk and shear moduli, exhibit a monotonic increase with increasing pressure and decrease with increasing temperature. By fitting the measured velocities to the third‐order Eulerian finite strain equations, the elastic moduli of stishovite and their pressure and temperature derivatives were obtained, yielding K_{S0} = 306.6(46) GPa, K_S' = 4.92(10), ∂K_S/ $\partial T = -0.024(1)$ GPa/*K*, $G_0 = 229.0(34)$ GPa, $G' = 1.07(10)$, and ∂G / $\partial T = -0.017(1)$ GPa/*K*. With the current data together with those from literature for other mantle phases, we calculated the velocity profile of the eclogite in the Hawaii area, and found that at 336 km depth the P and S wave velocities of the eclogite exhibit first order increases with a velocity contrast of 2.4% and 3.5%, respectively. A comparison between receiver function observation in Hawaii and the velocity contrasts of eclogite + harzburgite shows that the coesite‐stishovite transition in the eclogite can potentially be

responsible for the occurrence of the X discontinuity. Our results tend to support the eclogite‐rich model in Hawaii. The eclogite concentration at the top (∼336 km) and bottom (∼448 km) of the layer is 41–55 vol.% and >77 vol.% respectively.

Data Availability Statement

The original data collected by this study can be found in Zenodo (S. Chen, 2024). The elastic data of mantle minerals are available in Gwanmesia et al. ([2014,](#page-7-0) [2006\)](#page-7-0), Hao et al. [\(2021](#page-7-0), [2019](#page-7-0)), Kung et al. [\(2005](#page-7-0)), W. Liu et al. ([2005,](#page-7-0) [2009](#page-7-0)), and T. Chen et al. (2015, 2017). The mineral proportions data are available in Akaogi et al. (2011) and Irifune and Ringwood [\(1987](#page-7-0)).

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